



Christ is in our midst.

He is and ever shall be.

Holy Trinity Greek
Orthodox Sunday
School



Handbook

Guidelines

It is our dedicated belief that all children are good and yearn to grow towards God. In order to allow them the environment in which to develop, the Sunday School Department has adopted some general guidelines to supply structure. Please take a few moments to review the following procedures.

Children should be in Church by **10:00 am** and be seated with their Sunday School class in the designated pews.

Children will sing the hymns at the start of the Divine Liturgy.

Father will preach a Children's Sermon following the Gospel Reading.

Children cannot leave their classes without the permission of their teacher.

Classes cannot be disrupted.

If parents need to pick up their child/children for early dismissal, parent should first notify the supervisor as early as possible so that she may notify your child/children's teacher(s) to dismiss them at that time.

Order and discipline shall be maintained during classes.

Classes shall be dismissed under the supervision of the teachers when notified by the supervisor.

No chewing gum in Church or during Sunday School classes.

Food cannot be served in the classrooms.

Faithful attendance is the only way for a complete appreciation of the Orthodox teachings in Church and Sunday School.

Cooperation between teachers and parents is of extreme importance.

Special awards will be presented at the end of the year for Faithful Attendance.

Children are encouraged to bring their Stewardship contribution to their classes. The assistance of the parents will be greatly appreciated.

If your child has any special needs while attending Church, please let us know how we can help. Contact the teacher, Sunday School Supervisor, or Father.

General Data

Registration (to be implemented June 2008)

At the beginning of each Sunday School year we will have registration. All children attending Sunday School must register every year. We will also have a Pre-Registration form so that we can anticipate classroom sizes and materials needed. We ask parents to fill out the form completely and accurately. Please provide your email address so that we may contact you electronically.

Classes

A child must be three years old on or before September 1 to be enrolled in the Pre-School.

Term

The school term begins the Sunday after Labor Day and extends through the beginning of June.

Hours

Children are required to be in Church at 10:00, go to their assigned pews, sit with their teacher and remain with their class until dismissed by their teacher.

Program

Each Sunday the following schedule is in effect.

10:00-10:15 a.m. All children should be in Church

The priest will deliver a short sermon following the Gospel Reading.

The children will go to their class following Holy Communion.

Attendance

Children should attend regularly to benefit from the program taught.

A child must be physically **PRESENT** in church for the Divine Liturgy and in the classroom in order to be marked **PRESENT**. Otherwise that child is marked **ABSENT**. If a child attends an Orthodox Church out of town, he/she will be excused and will receive credit for that day if they bring a bulletin from that Church. This should be given either to the teacher or the supervisor.

Any child attending a Memorial Service in our Church will receive credit for that day.

Faithful Attendance Awards

At the end of the year, pins for Faithful Attendance and Perfect Attendance awards (based on the teacher's attendance records taken every Sunday) are given as follows:

Allowances—up to three absences are allowed.

Bonus Days— attend two services for credit for one absence. (Lenten Services, Holy Week Services)

On-Time Credit—Children must be in church by 10:15.

Five on time credits erase one absence.

Late: Children must be present for the Holy Gospel and the Children's Sermon. Children arriving after this are considered LATE.

Perfect Attendance

Recognition for perfect attendance is given to students who have **never been absent.**

Building Rules

Please help your child follow the building rules when on church property. We encourage all to follow them in order to ensure a safe and loving environment.

Please walk; do not run.
Be quiet in Church.
Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
Take care of your Church property.

Special Sundays

There will be no formal classes on the following Sundays: **Sunday of Orthodoxy, Veneration of the Cross, Palm Sunday, Pascha and Memorial Day.** However, rules governing attendance will be maintained to receive credit toward faithful attendance. Children must sit in the designated area and be on time.

Stewardship

There is no registration fee for Sunday School. The students will participate in stewardship by making weekly offerings. These contributions help pay for Sunday School materials.

Parents' Responsibility

We cannot over emphasize the importance of your participation in your child's religious life. It is up to the parent to guide, encourage, and direct the growing child into the arms of the Church. Of utmost significance is the understanding of the parent as the first and predominant Role Model. If your child sees both parents coming to Church, he/she will understand what families do. If you bring God into your home, He will be more readily known in your family.

Here are some ways that you help the Sunday School staff help your child.

Please bring your child on time.

Please have your child attend as regularly as possible; consistency is vital to the flow of information and to your child's feelings of group membership and acceptance.

Please discuss your child's lesson with him/her after Church and during the week.

Children are great imitators. What they see their parents do, they will also do.

Curriculum for 2007-2008

Pre School *Reaching for Jesus*

A pictorial introduction to Christ that reinforces prayer, the observance of the feast days and the love of Jesus.

K-1 *Me and My World*

The focus is on Creation as God's gift. In discovering the world, the child understands that the family, friends, church school—all come from God. Through depictions of the daily experiences of God's world, the child comes to realize that God is real, loving, and caring.

2-3 *Sharing God's World*

Children learn about sharing through the examples of Jesus, and are inspired to observe these same examples in the Divine Liturgy, the Sacraments and other Services of the Church. From there they become caring, sharing individuals.

4-5 *God Calls Us*

This teaches the children to concentrate on the stories of those heroes of the Faith who have responded to God's call. Student of this age learn to respond to God in terms of personal faith and the basics of Christian morality.

6-7-8 *Stewardship: Serving In
God's World*

All too often stewardship is equated with money, which is far too limited for a Christian perspective. This book expands on the vision of stewardship from the environment to our role of responsibility to each other, and focuses on broad concepts of stewardship that will contribute toward spiritual growth.

Honesty

Honesty is a broad topic, but knowing the consequences of lying, cheating, and distinguishing right from wrong are essential for our youth and their spiritual welfare.

9-10 *Celebration: Feasts and Holy
Days*

The curriculum is designed to deepen student's understanding and to reinforce the liturgical calendar, the sacraments, and the Orthodox Christian lifestyle.

11-12 *Rejoicing in One Lord,
Jesus Christ*

The curriculum is designed to engage teenagers by showing them how Orthodoxy is applicable to their lives through a variety of pertinent, contemporary issues.

*The primary goal in the education of children is to teach,
and to give the example of a virtuous life.*

St. John Chrysostom

2007-2008 Teaching Staff

PreSchool	Georgia Antinopoulos Karen Manis
Kindergarten/ First Grade	Joanie Ondrako
Second Grade/ Third Grade	Paula Yakoumas
Fourth Grade/ Fifth Grade	Pres. Evangeline Georgaroudakis
Sixth, Seventh Eighth Grades	Mary Kay Kanakis
Ninth & Tenth Grades	Sophia Contes
Eleventh & Twelfth Grades	Joel Brady
Supervisor	Jacqueline Bennis
Proistamenos:	Fr. Emmanuel N. Lillios

